

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

State Superintendent of Schools

BILL: Senate Bill 302 DATE: February 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Joint Committee on Workforce **COMMITTEE:** Finance and Education,

Development Health, and Environment

POSITION: Information Only

CONTACT: Tiffany Clark

410-260-6028 (Annapolis) tiffany.clark1@maryland.gov

EXPLANATION:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is providing information for your consideration regarding Senate Bill (SB) 302, Committee on Workforce Development. Senate Bill 302 establishes a Joint Committee on Workforce Development to:

- 1. Evaluate the condition of Maryland's public and private sector workforce;
- 2. Monitor workforce skills shortages;
- 3. Identify strategies to expand employment opportunities and increase income for Marylanders through workforce skills polices; and
- 4. Review and evaluate the effectiveness of policies and practices, including:
 - a. Career and technical education programs in public schools and institutions of postsecondary education,
 - b. Youth Apprenticeship Programs, and
 - c. General Apprenticeship Programs.

SB 302 will duplicate efforts already undertaken by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) in the implementation of career and technical education (CTE). The MSDE established the Maryland Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee (the Committee). The Committee provides guidance and direction for the statewide system of CTE including evaluating CTE programs to ensure appropriate rigor, identification of skill standards, recommending industry credentials, and providing input on local uses of federal and state funds to improve and expand CTE.

The Committee is led by the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education and includes members from the Governor's Workforce Development Board, Department of Labor, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development, Local School Systems, Postsecondary Institutions, Maryland Higher Education Commission, and the Maryland Career and Technical Administrators Association.

SB 302 – Joint Committee on Workforce Development Finance and Education, Health, and Environment February 13, 2020

Additionally, §21-101 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires local school systems and community colleges to have an overarching Local Advisory Council whose charge is to provide direction and guidance for CTE to meet regional workforce needs. Local Advisory Councils are formed between the local school system and community college for the region. Each CTE program of study must have a Program Advisory Committee at the state, postsecondary, and secondary levels. Members include business and industry representatives from career fields that align to the program of study. The Program Advisory Committee provides guidance for each individual CTE program of study.

The intent of SB 302 is already being addressed. We respectfully request that you consider this information as you deliberate SB 302. For further information, please contact Tiffany Johnson Clark, at 410-260-6028, or tiffany.clark1@maryland.gov.